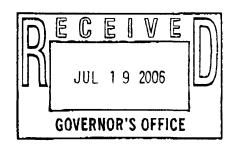
Barbara Williams 6150 Highway 61 Bloomsdale, MO 63627



## Governor Blunt:

I was pleased to see the article in the Farmington Press. Blunt Talk! Creating a healthier Missouri! I agree with your article except I feel that you personally are keeping our neighborhood from being a healthy one.

My husband and I try to walk a couple of miles a day in the area we live in. This has been a wonderful neighborhood with thirteen homes. Now we find out that a rock quarry will go in behind our house. And less then 1,000 feet of the Bloomsdale Grade School.

This quarry will end the healthy neighborhood. We will now have dust, dirt and unclean air. This is a hazard to our grade school and to the children that will play on the school grounds. It seems that no one cares about the people that will suffer from this quarry.

Five of the families in this neighborhood are older and retired. Some have heart problems and others are cancer survivors. No one seems to care.

I understand that The Department of Natural Resources reports to you and a quarry permit has never been denied. That makes me wonder why the permit system is a part of The Department of Natural Resources. You could save a lot of money on your tight budget if you didn't have to pay this department and just let businesses do as they please.

The quarry that is going in behind my house is the Fischer Quarry of St. Mary's MO. They plan to use a private road and do not have permission. The DNR says how they get the rock out of the quarry is not there problem. The three families along the road have hired a lawyer to try to protect their road.

We have been to lots of meetings and called a lot of people but no one really cares. We need an important person to come to the DNR meeting on Thursday July 27th at 10:00 AM. I am asking you to attend this meeting at The Elm Street Conference Center. 1738 Elm Street, Jefferson City.

It seems like you are the only person that can really help us.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Barbara L Williams

DNR

## STATE OF MISSOURI

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

www.dnr.mo.gov

JUL 2 4 2006

Ms. Barbara Williams 6150 Highway 61 Bloomsdale, MO 63627

Dear Ms. Williams:

Governor Blunt's office received your letter on July 19<sup>th</sup> asking him to attend the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Land Reclamation Commission. The Governor has asked me to thank you for your letter and to reply to your concerns.

In your letter you ask for an important person to attend the meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup>. The Land Reclamation Commission is a panel of seven people who are prepared to listen to your concerns at that meeting. The Governor personally appoints four of those seven people to the commission, and therefore you will have four public representatives of the Governor's office to consider the matter of the Fischer Quarry and Hauling site at Bloomsdale, Missouri. The other three commissioners are from the DNR Water Protection Program, the State Geologist, and a representative from the Department of Conservation.

I am aware that you and others have written many letters and made many phone calls, but the Land Reclamation Commission only meets every other month and the July meeting will be the first meeting for them to consider this issue. I hope you and other citizens who are very concerned about this issue will attend the commission meeting and present your concerns in person.

In reviewing the permit, the department is following the process in Missouri law. The staff of the Land Reclamation Program must determine whether or not the mine operator has properly completed an application to mine. This has been done. However, there are many things that the staff of the program does not decide. The Land Reclamation Commission itself must decide these issues. The commission will consider those things when they meet on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Only the commission can rule on whether or not a hearing must be held regarding the health, safety or livelihood of the surrounding neighbors to the quarry. The commission's responsibility in this regard is also dictated by statute. The staff of the program cannot make that decision.



Ms. Barbara Williams Page Two

Likewise, the staff of the program cannot decide whether or not a shared access road is available to the mine operator to use. This is not part of the mining law, but must be decided by either the Land Reclamation Commission or a court of law.

Again, I thank you for your letter, and I know that you are gravely concerned about this issue. However, we must allow the legal process to continue including the opportunity for the Land Reclamation Commission to hear your case. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Mr. Larry Coen, Staff Director at the Land Reclamation Commission, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Doyle Childers** 

Director

DC:lct

c: Governor Matt Blunt